

Amendments to the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

**ABSTRACT**

**~~TILT PAD BEARING ASSEMBLY AND RETAINING PIN~~**

~~The invention provides~~Disclosed is a radial tilt pad bearing assembly comprising: an outer carrier-(12); a plurality of tilt pads (14)-retained within the outer carrier; and a corresponding plurality of retaining pins (50)-to retain the tilt pads in given circumferential positions, each fixed in the bearing assembly outer carrier so as to abut a side face (38)-of a cavity (28)-in the corresponding tilt pad. At least one retaining pin (50)-and the corresponding cavity (28)-are respectively shaped such that, when in use, a clearance (e)-in a plane transverse to the axes of the bearing assembly and the tilt pad between the retaining pin (50)-and the side face (38)-is lesser at a first location (54)-which lies substantially at the inner surface of the carrier-(12), than at all corresponding locations at radially inner portions of the side face, with respect to the first location. A contact point (54, 54')-between the retaining pin (50)-and the tilt pad (14)-when in use, lies substantially at the inner surface of the outer carrier-(12). The tilt pad (14)-is accordingly able to tilt without being substantially displaced circumferentially about the outer carrier-(12). ~~The present invention also provides~~Further disclosed is a retaining pin for use in such a bearing system.